

Message Text

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11

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CPR-01 PM-03 SAM-01 NSC-05 OPR-02

PA-02 RSC-01 SS-15 SY-04 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00

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O R 130933Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5977

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 14806

FOR SAVAGE, WHITE HOUSE LIAISON (USIA)

WHITE HOUSE FOR HENKEL, FRIENDMAN AND RUSTAND

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FORD'S JAPAN VISIT: REQUESTED BACKGROUND
MATERIAL

1. JAPAN'S STATE GUEST HOUSE, WHERE PRESIDENT FORD WILL BE STAYING WHILE IN TOKYO, IS THE FORMER AKASAKA DETACHED PALACE, BUILT IN 1906 AS THE RESIDENCE OF THE CROWN PRINCE, WHO LATER BECAME THE EMPEROR TAISHO. IT HAS VERY RECENTLY UNDERGONE A TOTAL REFURBISHING AND REMODELING TO SERVE AS OFFICIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR HIGH-RANKING GUESTS FROM ABROAD.

2. THE NEO-BAROQUE BUILDING IS MODELLED ON THE PALACE OF VERSAILLES AND HAS A TOTAL FLOOR SPACE OF 15,000 SQUARE METERS (APPROX. 18,000 SQ YD.). THE LONG RENOVATION PROJECT INCLUDED REPAIR AND RESTORATION OF THE CEILING PAINTINGS AND THE HUGE, GRACEFUL CHANDELIERS, AS WELL AS CARVINGS ON DOORS AND WALLS, TO FAITHFULLY RESTORE THE ORIGINAL STYLING. AT THE SAME TIME, MODERN ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING FACILITIES AND COMPREHENSIVE AIR CONDITIONING WERE INSTALLED. VELVET AND BROCADE FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THE LATE 19TH-CENTURE
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FURNISHINGS.

3. AS A PLACE WHERE FOREIGN DIGNATARIES WOULD BE ABLE TO ENJOY A PURELY JAPANESE ATMOSPHERE, A NEW ANNEX WAS BUILT ON THE STATE GUEST HOUSE GROUNDS. THE NEW BUILDING, CALLED THE "YUSHINTEI", IS A BLENDING A OF TRADITIONAL JAPANESE DESIGN CONCEPTS AND MODERN CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES. A JAPANESE-STYLE GARDEN SURROUNDS THE "YUSHINTEI".

MILLER

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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